

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7131
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, OECD, JA

SUBJECT: IEA GOVERNING BOARD, TOKYO - APRIL 12-13

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF GOVERNING BOARD CONCLUSION ON
1977 NATIONAL ENERGY POLICY REVIEWS AGREED TO AT TOKYO
GOVERNING BOARD. CONCLUSIONS ON COAL AND NUCLEAR WILL

BE CABLED FROM PARIS AS SOON AS CLEAN TEXTS ARE AVAILABLE.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

GOVERNING BOARD CONCLUSIONS ON THE RESULTS OF THE 1977
COUNTRY REVIEW

1. THE GOVERNING BOARD CONSIDERED THE REPORTS SUBMITTED BY THE SLT AND THE CRD ON THE 1977 REVIEW OF NATIONAL ENERGY PROGRAMMES, COMPARED THE RESULTS OF POLICY ACTION TAKEN UP TO NOW IN MEMBER COUNTRIES WITH THE OBJECTIVES OF THE AGENCY, AND AGREED ON THE FOLLOWING:

(A) THE COUNTRY REVIEW PROCESS CONFIRMS IN ESSENCE THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL IN OCTOBER 1977 THAT THE PROSPECTS OF OIL SUPPLY AND DEMAND CONTINUE TO BE SUCH THAT THERE IS A LIKELIHOOD OF A SERIOUS IMBALANCE AT SOME TIME DURING THE 1980'S.

(B) CO-OPERATION WITHIN THE AGENCY AND ACTION TAKEN SINCE 1974 TO STRENGTHEN NATIONAL POLICIES HAVE LED TO PROGRESS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL ENERGY PROGRAMMES IN MANY IEA COUNTRIES. THIS PROGRESS HAS IMPROVED FUTURE PROSPECTS.

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(C) NEVERTHELESS, THE REVIEW ALSO DEMONSTRATED VERY CLEARLY THAT EFFORTS UNDERTAKEN ARE NOT SUFFICIENT. THE PLANNED DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF ENERGY AND THE FUTURE IMPACT OF ENERGY CONSERVATION ARE, IN GENERAL, STILL NOT SUFFICIENT. THE PRESENT WORLDWIDE OVERSUPPLY OF OIL HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THIS SITUATION. PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE ENERGY PROBLEM IS WEAKENING.

(D) THE REVIEW SHOWS THAT EFFORTS UNDERTAKEN AND PLANNED TO DATE ARE INADEQUATE TO ACHIEVE THE GROUP OBJECTIVE OF HOLDING IEA OIL IMPORTS TO NOT MORE THAN 26 MB/D IN 1985 AND THAT ONLY VIGOROUS PURSUIT AND REINFORCEMENT OF POLICY MEASURES WILL BE ADEQUATE TO ACHIEVE THIS END.

(E) THIS JUDGMENT IS VALID FOR THE GROUP AS A WHOLE, AS WELL AS FOR THE MAJORITY OF PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES. SUBMISSIONS BY NATIONAL DELEGATIONS TO THE REVIEW INDICATED THAT THE REQUIREMENT OF THE GROUP FOR IMPORTED OIL FOR 1985 WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY EXCEED 26 MB/D; THERE ARE ADDITIONAL RISK FACTORS THAT COULD MAKE THE SITUATION CONSIDERABLY WORSE; AND OIL ACTUALLY AVAILABLE IN 1985

FOR IEA COUNTRIES MIGHT BE CONSIDERABLY LESS THAN THESE
POTENTIAL NEEDS.

(F) IF THE GROUP OBJECTIVE IS TO BE REALIZED, THERE IS
A NEED FOR ALL PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES TO ADOPT STRONG
AND EFFECTIVE ENERGY POLICIES, SUPPORTED BY APPROPRIATE
MEASURES, SUCH AS WILL ENABLE THEM TO MAKE AN ADEQUATE
CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE GROUP OBJECTIVE. THE REVIEW
INDICATES, HOWEVER, THAT THE DEGREE TO WHICH PARTICIPA-
TING COUNTRIES HAVE DEVELOPED THEIR ENERGY POLICIES VARIES
WIDELY.

(I) GIVEN THE PREDOMINANT WEIGHT OF THE UNITED
STATES AS BOTH A CONSUMER AND PRODUCER OF ENERGY, IT IS

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OF DECISIVE IMPORTANCE FOR ACHIEVEMENT OF THE GROUP
OBJECTIVE THAT THE UNITED STATES SHOULD ADOPT CLEARLY-
DEFINED ENERGY POLICIES AND MEASURES OF THE KIND DES-
CRIBED ABOVE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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- (II) THE AGGREGATE CONTRIBUTION OF THE OTHER LARGER
ECONOMIES TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE GROUP OBJECTIVE
IS OF SIMILAR IMPORTANCE TO THAT OF THE UNITED STATES.
THIS IS PARTICULARLY TRUE IN COUNTRIES SUCH AS CANADA,
GERMANY, ITALY, JAPAN, AND THE UNITED KINGDOM. WHILE
MOST OF THESE COUNTRIES HAVE PUT IN PLACE SIGNIFICANT
MEASURES, THERE IS SCOPE FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENT. THESE
COUNTRIES SHOULD THEREFORE PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO
THOSE ENERGY POLICY MEASURES WHICH THE EXPERIENCE OF
OTHER PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES SHOWS TO BE FEASIBLE ALSO
FOR THESE COUNTRIES.

- (III) IT IS ALSO OF SERIOUS CONCERN THAT IN SOME
PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES VERY LITTLE PROGRESS HAS SO FAR
BEEN MADE TOWARDS PUTTING IN PLACE ENERGY POLICIES
CORRESPONDING TO THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE SITUATION,
WHEREAS THERE IS A NEED FOR STRONG ACTION IN ALL PARTICI-
PATING COUNTRIES.

(G) SINCE THE PRICE MECHANISM IS STILL ONE OF THE MOST
IMPORTANT SINGLE INSTRUMENTS FOR PROMOTING INCREASED
EFFICIENCY OF ENERGY USE, INCLUDING ENERGY CON-
SERVATION, AND FOR EXPANDING ENERGY SUPPLIES, THOSE
COUNTRIES WHERE PRICING IS STILL BELOW WORLD LEVELS
SHOULD PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THIS ELEMENT IN ENERGY
POLICIES.

(H) THE FOLLOWING ARE KEY AREAS OF POLICY IN WHICH, IN
THE MAJORITY OF PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES, ACTION DOES NOT
YET CORRESPOND TO THE POLICY COMMITMENTS CONTAINED IN
THE PRINCIPLES FOR ENERGY POLICY ADOPTED BY THE GOVERNING
BOARD AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL IN OCTOBER 1977:

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- (I) TOO LITTLE ATTENTION HAS BEEN GIVEN BY PARTICI-

PATING COUNTRIES TO THE PROMOTION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF ENERGY CONSERVATION. THIS APPLIES TO ALL SECTORS BUT IS PARTICULARLY TRUE IN INDUSTRY, WHERE EVEN INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT IS RELATIVELY SPARSE. THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR IS THEREFORE AN IMPORTANT FIELD FOR ADDITIONAL CONSERVATION ACTION BY PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES.

- (II) IN MANY COUNTRIES MUCH MORE CAN BE DONE TO REPLACE OIL BY OTHER FORMS OF ENERGY. LAGGING NATIONAL PROGRAMMES FOR COAL, NUCLEAR, AND OTHER FORMS OF ENERGY BRINGS THE DANGER THAT THE LONG TERM CONTRIBUTION OF THESE ENERGY SOURCES WILL NOT BE SUFFICIENT. THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE TAKEN LITTLE OR NO ACTION ON THESE PARTICULAR ISSUES SHOULD FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE OF OTHER PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES AND PUT INTO PLACE STRONG PROGRAMMES IN THIS REGARD.
- (III) SINCE NUCLEAR POWER IS EXPECTED TO MAKE A MAJOR AND INDISPENSABLE CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE GROUP OBJECTIVE, PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES SHOULD PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE DIFFICULTIES THAT COULD LEAD TO FURTHER SLIPPAGE IN CURRENTLY PLANNED NUCLEAR PROGRAMMES, AND MAKE SPECIAL EFFORTS, BOTH NATIONALLY AND THROUGH PROMOTION OF BROADER INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, TO RESOLVE THESE DIFFICULTIES AS SPEEDILY AS POSSIBLE, CONSISTENT WITH THE CONDITIONS SET OUT IN PRINCIPLE 8.

THE GOVERNING BOARD RECALLED PRINCIPLE 8 OF THE PRINCIPLES FOR ENERGY POLICY ADOPTED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL IN OCTOBER 1977, AS WELL AS THE INDIVIDUAL POSITIONS EXPRESSED BY A NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS REGARDING PRINCIPLE 8.

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- (IV) RELATIVELY LITTLE HAS BEEN DONE TO RESOLVE THE
CONFLICTS WHICH MAY EXIST BETWEEN ENERGY REQUIREMENTS
AND IMPORTANT ENVIRONMENTAL, SAFETY, REGIONAL AND
SECURITY CONCERNS OR TO RATIONALIZE AND SPEED UP THE
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PROCEDURES FOR SUCH RECONCILIATION, BOTH OF WHICH REQUIRE
URGENT REMEDIAL ACTION.

- (V) DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF STABLE AND
RELIABLE CONDITIONS OF TRADE IS A NECESSARY COMPONENT
OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES, SUCH
AS NUCLEAR POWER AND COAL.

- (VI) EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF OIL AND GAS IN
PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES SHOULD BE FURTHER ENCOURAGED.

(I) FURTHER EFFORTS ARE REQUIRED TO ENSURE THAT NEW
ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES RELATING BOTH TO CONVENTIONAL AND
RENEWABLE RESOURCES ARE BEING DEVELOPED AND APPLIED ON
AN ADEQUATE SCALE PARTICULARLY IN COUNTRIES WHOSE EFFORTS
IN ENERGY RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION HAVE
NOT BEEN SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED IN RECENT YEARS. IN
ADDITION, AREAS REQUIRING PARTICULAR ATTENTION BY
VIRTUALLY ALL COUNTRIES ARE:

- (I) THE DEVELOPMENT OF POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES TO
FACILITATE THE INTRODUCTION INTO COMMERCIAL USE OF

NEW ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES, PARTICULARLY WHEN MAJOR NEW INVESTMENT RISKS ARE INVOLVED.

- (II) A MORE SYSTEMATIC AND STRONGER PROGRAMME OF DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY CONSERVING TECHNOLOGIES.

- (III) A GREATER PREPAREDNESS TO INTEGRATE INDEPENDENTLY CONDUCTED NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING THOSE OF A MAJOR HARDWARE NATURE, INTO IEA COLLABORATION PROJECTS.

(J) THE COUNTRY REPORTS RESULTING FROM THE REVIEWS IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GENERAL DESCRIBE THE SITUATION IN EACH PARTICIPATING COUNTRY. THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE COUNTRY REPORTS SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BY EACH GOVERNMENT IN CARRYING OUT ITS ENERGY POLICIES. THE RESPONSE OF THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED TO THESE RECOMMENDATIONS SHOULD BE SPECIFICALLY EXAMINED DURING THE COURSE OF THE NEXT REVIEW.

2. GIVEN THE LONG LEAD TIMES FOR ENERGY POLICY MEASURES TO TAKE EFFECT AND ANTICIPATING THE LIKELIHOOD OF AN EVEN TIGHTER ENERGY MARKET DEVELOPING LATER IN THE 1980'S, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO PROVIDE FOR POLICY PLANNING FOR THE PERIOD BEYOND 1985. THE GOVERNING BOARD THEREFORE REQUESTED THE SLT AND THE SECRETARIAT TO ANALYZE THE THE ENERGY SUPPLY/DEMAND SITUATION IN 1990 WITH A VIEW TO ESTABLISHING A GROUP OBJECTIVE FOR 1990 EARLY IN 1979 FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF THE 1978 REVIEW CYCLE AND AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE OF THE R&D STRATEGY PROJECT. END TEXT.
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